

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 471—COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALABAMA FARMERS FEDERATION AND CELEBRATING THE LONG HISTORY OF THE ALABAMA FARMERS FEDERATION SERVING AS THE VOICE FOR ALABAMA AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Mr. SHELBY (for himself and Mr. TUBERVILLE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

## S. RES. 471

Whereas, created by farmers, led by farmers, and dedicated to serving farmers, the Alabama Farmers Federation was founded in 1921;

Whereas the Alabama Farmers Federation founded Alfa Insurance in 1946 to provide quality and affordable fire insurance to federation members and has worked to expand coverage to more than 1,000,000 customers in 11 States;

Whereas the Alabama Farmers Federation, with more than 360,000 members and 67 county Farmers Federations, has grown to become the largest farmer-led organization in the State of Alabama;

Whereas the mission of the Alabama Farmers Federation is “to serve farmers by promoting the economic, social and educational interests of all Alabamians”;

Whereas the Alabama Farmers Federation fulfills that mission—

(1) by representing farm and forestry families of Alabama for the purpose of formulating action to support agriculture, forestry, and rural communities;

(2) by improving agricultural production, education, leadership development, marketing, and public policy; and

(3) by promoting the well-being of the people of the State of Alabama;

Whereas the Alabama Farmers Federation has represented the interests of farmers with respect to the consideration and enactment of all major legislation impacting farmers since the founding of the Alabama Farmers Federation; and

Whereas the Alabama Farmers Federation plays a vital role in promoting the well-being of the people of Alabama—

(1) by analyzing issues faced by farm and forestry families; and

(2) by formulating action to achieve the goals of farm and forestry families: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Alabama Farmers Federation;

(2) recognizes the Alabama Farmers Federation for 100 years of promoting farm and forestry interests for the benefit of the people of the State of Alabama; and

(3) applauds the Alabama Farmers Federation for its past, present, and future efforts to advocate for agricultural and forestry interests that are critical to the State of Alabama.

SENATE RESOLUTION 472—REAFFIRMING THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND ADVANCING OPPORTUNITIES TO DEEPEN DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC, AND SECURITY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

## S. RES. 472

Whereas the United States and the Dominican Republic share extensive economic, security, and cultural ties and a mutual commitment to the promotion of internationally recognized human rights, democratic values, and the rule of law;

Whereas the bilateral relationship between the United States and the Dominican Republic has contributed to the economic prosperity and national security of both countries, including through the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement and the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative;

Whereas, under the leadership of President Luis Abinader, who took office on August 16, 2020, the Government of the Dominican Republic has taken steps to effectively address the COVID-19 pandemic, fully vaccinating over 60 percent of its adult population, one of the highest vaccination rates in Latin America and the Caribbean, and acquiring sufficient surplus vaccines to provide donations to other countries in the region;

Whereas, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of the Dominican Republic has committed to working with the United States, other Group of 7 countries, the International Monetary Fund, and the Inter-American Development Bank to advance global and regional post-pandemic economic recovery efforts;

Whereas, in 2020, United States foreign direct investment in the Dominican Republic totaled \$274,500,000, and remittances from the United States accounted for approximately 78 percent of the over \$8,000,000,000 in remittances sent to the Dominican Republic, according to data from the Congressional Research Service and World Bank, respectively;

Whereas, on September 30, 2021, President Abinader signed presidential decree 612-21, creating a ministerial task force to advance nearshoring initiatives and strengthen the Dominican Republic's participation in international supply chains and role as an industrial, manufacturing, and logistical hub, including by expanding the country's network of free trade zones;

Whereas the United States and the Dominican Republic would benefit from a coordinated plan of action to bolster economic relations, realign supply chains, and expand ties between the private sectors in both countries;

Whereas the Government of the United States has engaged with the Dominican Republic and other regional partners to address the United States' serious concerns over the security, human rights, and data privacy risks associated with investments by the People's Republic of China in telecommunication networks and other critical infrastructure;

Whereas the Government of the Dominican Republic has committed to strengthening security cooperation with the United States to address the threats posed by transnational criminal organizations and human traf-

ficking, drug trafficking, and money laundering networks;

Whereas a humanitarian crisis, rampant crime, gang violence, and instability in neighboring Haiti, a situation exacerbated by the July 7, 2021, assassination of President Jovenel Moise, has deepened the suffering of the Haitian people, increased risks to the Dominican Republic posed by organized criminal groups along its borders, and strained the economic capacity of the Government of the Dominican Republic to address the humanitarian needs of Haitian migrants;

Whereas President Abinader has taken significant steps to make the Government of the Dominican Republic more accountable and effective, including by addressing corruption and impunity, appointing an independent Public Prosecutor, requiring additional transparency in public procurement, and proposing legislation to modernize asset forfeiture laws;

Whereas, on October 20, 2021, the Governments of the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, and Panama signed a joint declaration expressing concern about irregular migration flows, climate change, post-COVID-19 economic recovery, the deteriorating human rights situation in Nicaragua, and the humanitarian crisis in Haiti, and called for stronger cooperation on these issues from the United States, regional partners, and the international community;

Whereas the Government of the Dominican Republic, as host of the Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week 2021, has called for greater regional coordination to address the effects of climate change, including more extreme weather events, biodiversity loss, environmental displacement, and adverse health effects, which Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean are disproportionately vulnerable to;

Whereas the Government of the Dominican Republic has called for the peaceful restoration of democracy and rule of law in Venezuela and is hosting approximately 114,000 Venezuelan refugees; and

Whereas approximately 2,000,000 people of Dominican origin currently reside in the United States, and over 2,000,000 United States tourists visit the Dominican Republic annually, accounting for the largest number of foreign tourists to the country and bolstering its economically critical tourism sector: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to strengthening the historic partnership between the United States and the Dominican Republic based on shared democratic values and efforts to advance economic prosperity and national security;

(2) encourages continued actions by the Government of the Dominican Republic to assume a regional leadership role in promoting human rights, democratic values, and humanitarian assistance;

(3) calls for further steps to strengthen cooperation between the Governments of the United States and the Dominican Republic on issues of shared strategic interest, including—

(A) by assisting the Dominican Republic in its post-COVID-19 economic recovery, including through support for United States and global initiatives that help developing countries recover financial sustainability and attain equitable access to international financial markets;

(B) by developing and implementing nearshoring initiatives in the Caribbean Basin to realign international supply chains and strengthen the Dominican Republic's standing as a significant industrial, manufacturing, and logistical hub, including